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Version 1
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6 December 1948

SUBJECT: Freie Stimmen (Free Voice).

TO: Director of Intelligence
Headquarters, USA
APO 777, U.S. Army

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2008

1. On 20 November 1948 the first edition of Subject, an independent opinion weekly in line, appeared for public sale. Upon the basis of the first edition - and specifically one article attacking leftists who conveniently used the charge of "pro-Soviet" vs "pro-Fascist" to silence political opponents - the ~~newspaper~~ ^{newspaper} Der Freiheit and Volksstimme ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~visitors~~ ^{visitors} to the banned Heimatrus, ~~Graz~~ ^{Graz} ~~now~~ ^{now} Nazi weekly, in their editions of 22 November. The Soviet delegation concurrently made the same accusation in the Allied Council and asked for Subject's liquidation.

2. Subject is published by the Rosenberg Publishing House, Liebigstrasse 11, Linz, which was founded on 9 November 1948. The heads of the House are LUDWIG KR., MAERLER, and WILHELM K., who - like the responsible editor ALBERT HOPP - were linked in no way to the Heimatrus.

There are 3 former Heimatrus employees now serving on Subject:
CLINGER Walfried - a former editor of, but subordinate figure in, the Heimatrus, who had political differences with the Heimatrus publishers;

JASPER Manfred - ex-Heimatrus editor whose political viewpoints clashed with those of the STOCHER group of the Heimatbund. He now has a key editorial slot with Subject;

GRABINGER Horst - an administrative assistant on the Heimatrus who is employed as bookkeeper with Subject.

3. None of the former heads of Graes's Alpenblatt Verlag, FRANZ DR., CLAUDE SR., or ERNST SR. - are officially or unofficially connected with Subject. The Alpenblatt Verlag, still in operation to 14-15-16 late the Heimatrus, intends to found a new weekly paper. Thus the Verlag is opposed to Subject, and is attempting to lower Subject's circulation in Steiermark. In addition to competitive reasons, rivalry between Subject and the Verlag has been nourished by the departure of CLINGER and JASPER to Subject. Even inquiries regarding

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Subject's political complexion are made to the Verlag, the answer is unfavorable; the Verlag asserts Subject's political opinions are contrary to those of ex-Heimatruf readers, and that Subject should not be subscribed to. Also, the Verlag has refused to sell its subscription list to Subject because of the differences in political opinion, on the basis that the list can only be sold to a paper with a Heimatruf-like tone.

4. Subject has received substantial aid and support from the Upper Austrian Volkspartei, but claims to be under no obligation to support the Volkspartei. Circulation offices of Subject are in Innsbruck and Klagenfurt. Vienna circulation is handled by the WALDNER & BRAUNE Firm; the Heimatruf's Vienna circulation A/P was the HIGL Firm.

5. The contents of Subject are those of a lively, American-style independent journal, completely in tune with Western political opinion. The keynote is anti-Bolshevism. There has been no direct or indirect neo-Nazi propaganda printed in Subject. The propaganda published has been analyzed in the Weekly Sitrops of this Section, dated 30 November 1948 and 7 December 1948.

6. The "neo-Nazi" charge voiced against Subject by the Communist press and the Soviet Element apparently is merely a propaganda reflex to Subject's vigorous anti-Bolshevik tone.

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Chief CIS
Land Upper Austria

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